کلزیومر موومینٹ چلانے کی بات کرتے ہوئے ہمیں بے آواز کرنے کی کوشش کی ہے - لیکن میں دھیمی آواز میں یہ بات عرض کرنا چاہتا ہوں کہ سپر بازار جو پارلیمنٹ اینیکسی میں ہے وہاں پر تو ظاہر ہے کہ اسٹنڈرڈ کی چیزیں آنی چاہئیں لیکن بدبختی سے میں نے یہاں سے کچھ کلاسیز خریدے اسٹیل کے وہ داغدار نکلے تو میں منتری جی سے یہ جاننا چاہتا ہوں کہ ہمیں بے آواز کرنے کے بجائے ان داغدار دھبوں کو مٹانے کی کوشش سرکار کی طرف سے کی جائیگی یا نہیں -]

श्री वसन्त साठे : यह तो काफी पुरजोर आवाज में शिकायत की है। सुपर बाजार के जो लोग होंगे, वे जरूर इसको नोट करेंगे और कैसे दाग वह मिटा सकें, इसकी कोशिश करेंगे।

MR. CHAIRMAN: Next question.

*385. [*The questioner (Shri. Leonard Solomon Saring) was absent. For answer* vide *cols.* 39-40 *infra.*]

*386. [*The questioner (Shri Krishna Kumar Birla) was absent. For answer,* vide *cols.* 40-41 infra.]

Service conditions in public sector undertakings

*387. DR. BAPU KALDATE:

DR SHANTI G. PATEL:†

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that public sector undertakings under his Ministry have different set of rules and guidelines with regard to pay and allowances and other service conditions for their employees;

(b) if so, what are the reasons therefor; and

(c) what steps Government propose to take to bring uniformity in this regard in all the public sector undertakings"

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHAN POOJARI): (a) to (c) A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement

While the general conditions of service (Conduct Rules, Disciplinary Rules etc.) governing the employees of the institutions coming under the administrative control of the Ministry of Finance are broadly similar, the pay and allowances of employees of different institutions such as the Reserve Bank of India, the commercial banks, insurance corporations, Regional Rural Banks etc. are different. The difference is on account of historical factors and the fact that the functions of the institutions and the nature of work are different. In view of this, there cannot be complete uniformity in the pay and allowances of employees in different institutions.

DR. SHANTI G. PATEL: Sir, as you are aware, the Supreme Court, the wage boards and other wage fixing authorities have fixed wages on the basis of a certain principle and this principle is to fix wages on the basis of conditions prevailing in the industry-cum-region. What we find now is that a number of public sector undertakings are not fixing wages and service conditions on this basis. May I know from the hon. Minister what steps he proposes to take so that the wages and service conditions are fixed at least on the basis of industry-cum-region?

SHRI JANARDHAN POOJARI: Sir, so far as part (a) of the question is concerned, it refers to public sector undertakings under our Ministry, the Finance Ministry. And, as you know, Sir, the undertakings which are under the Finance Ministry are the Reserve Bank of India,

†The question was actually asked on floor of the House by Dr. Shanti G. Patel.

the IDBI, the IFCI, the Unit Trust of India, the banks, the LIC and General Insurance. These are the institutions for which we are the administrative Ministry. So far as Class III and Class IV employees of banks are concerned, as the honourable Member knows, there is a settlement. A settlement has been arrived at after negotiations. So far as officers are concerned, they are out of the Industrial Disputes Act. Discussions are held and IBA is coming forward after discussion with them and consultation with IBA the Government announces their wages. So far as Reserve Bank of India is concerned, it has a different culture. The working of the Reserve Bank is quite different. The responsibilities of the Reserve Bank are different....

DR. SHANTI G. PATEL: I have asked a very simple question....

SHRI JANARDHAN POOJARI: I am coming to that. When the responsibilities are different, when the work culture is different, there cannot be any parity. And as you know, nobody wants levelling down; everybody wants levelling up. After taking into consideration the resource constraints and other things, it is not possible to have uniformity and parity. There is bound to be some difference in the wage structure.

DR. SHANTI G. PATEL: My question is not answered. I asked whether he would advise the undertakings to fix the wages on the basis of industry....

MR. CHAIRMAN: Which undertakings? He has answered the question and the point the Minister raised is he is in charge of only those institutions—he has named those institutions—and there is a method followed. You cannot ask him a general question on wage policy. That concerns the Labour Minister

DR. SHANTI G. PATEL: I am not asking a general question. He has to apply in his own undertakings that principle which is universally accepted

MR. CHAIRMAN: He says it is not possible.

DR. SHANTI G. PATEL: You are answering...

MR CHAIRMAN: No, he said it himself.

SHRI VISHWANATH PRATAP SINGH: My colleague is right in what he said. There are differences and it is not possible to make it all at the same level. He is right Only one thing I want to say, there are four major groups. One is the Reserve Bank group which includes the IDBI, IFCI, NABARD, Industrial Reconstruction Bank, Exim Bank and Unit Trust of India. This group is linked to the Reserve Bank. The other groups consists of the 28 public sector commercial banks. The third group is of the insurance corporations. And the fourth one consists of the Regional Rural Banks. If you take the group of the Reserve Bank, there are small differences between them but, by and larg they have a lot of similarity and commonness. Similary, there is commonness between the constituents of the group of commercial banks. There is similarly commonness among the various insurance corporations. And the RRBs are based on the State-level salaries and are correlated to them. So, these are different from State to State. There are the differences which the Minister of State has pointed out in the various groups.

DR. SHANTI G. PATEL: My second supplementary: The Ministry has laid down a certain guideline in the form of a certain percentage beyond which the wage bill should not rise. These are facts, particularly those undertakings where the wages have been low in spite of the fact that those undertakings may be making more surpluses— I won't say profits—and can thus afford. In this situation, will the Minister be pleased to advise the person concerned to do them full justice and allow this percentage barrier to be crossed?

SHRI VISHWANATH PRATAP SINGH: I don't think the Finance Ministry public sector undertakings are in the low wage group.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Mr. Dhabe.

SHRI S. W. DHABE: My question to the honourable Minister is this. Sir kindly don't give us a verdict in the meantime.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, the Bhoothalingam Committee long back recommended that there should be uniformity in wages after taking into account the work done and the nature of the work. But I find that everytime when banks are opened, the idea is not to have uniformity, but to create more disparities. The Regional Rural Banks are Central undertakings and they have branches in all the States. But the Government has taken a decision that the pay scales will be similar to the ones prevailing in the States in which they are located. This is creating disparities. They are doing the same work as the commercial banks. When a commercial bank branch is there in a village, its employees are getting a higher salary while the Regional Rural Bank employees are getting lower salaries. The Class III and Class IV employees in the Regional Rural Banks are doing the same work as the employees in the commercial banks and there is no justification for this disparity and there is no reason why the pay scales or the working conditions should be different from State to State and why they should be different from those in the commercial banks. May I know from the honourable Minister the basis on which the pay scales in the Regional Rural Banks are treated differently and why separate pay scales and service conditions are allowed to the Class III and Class IV employees in the commercial banks and why there should not be uniformity in the pay scales of employees in the Regional Rural Banks and also the commercial banks?

SHRI VISHWANATH PRATAP SINGH: Sir, the Regional Rural Bank was conceived as a low-cost paying facility to the people and that was the basic conception of the RRB and the State involvement is also there. So, there is linkage with the State salaries. We have nominally correlated the posts in the RRBs with some posts in the States in which they are working and this has been working well and I think that is the pattern which we are going to continue.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Yes, Mr. Sukomal Sen.

SHRI SUKOMAL SEN: Sir, in the public sector undertakings, wages are fixed through bipartite negotiations and so far this has been taking place in many public sector units like those in the coal sector, steel sector and other sectors. Now, Sir, there is a report that the Government is going to do away with this system. In the recent pass the Government appointed a Committee under the chairmanship of Mr. Arjun Sen Gupta the Report of which has been submitted to the Government. Is it a fact that in accordance with the recommendations of this Committee, the Government is going to do away with bipartite negotiations for wage fixation and that they are going to set up wage boards for certain groups of industries instead of having these bipartite negotiations? I would like to know whether it is a fact.

SHRI VISHWANATH PRATAP SINGH: Sir, the Government is yet to take a final decision on Arjun Sen Gupta Committee Report.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Yes, Mr. Hanumanthappa.

SHRI H. HANUMANTHAPPA: Sir, the honourable Minister has said that as a low-cost paying facility these Regional Rural Banks have been created and, Sir, it is on these Banks that we depend for the implementation of the 20 Point Economic programme, the IRDP, etc. and also other programmes meant for the small and the marginal farmers and it is these banks which are doing this work. It is here that we should have more sympathy for the employees who are working in these Regional Rural Banks. I say this because they are working in the rural areas where there are no amenities. Added to this, they have the feeling that there is discrimination because in a village if there is a Regional Rural Bank and also if there is a commercial bank, it is these people who are working under the lead bank and they are working under them and they feel that there is a lot of discrimination between the employees of this bank and the commercial banks. I would like to know whether the honourable

Minister will reconsider the question of pay scales and service conditions of the employees of these Regional Rural Banks from whom you are expecting more for the implementaion of our economic programmes.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Yes, Mr. Minister. You make up your mind!

SHRI VISHWANATH PRATAP SINGH: Sir, it is very true that the RRBs are very critical in implementing all these schemes for the people. While we have to take care of the amenities of the people working in these banks, they are part of the banking system and we are trying to do our best for them. At the same time, we have also to see how many people we cover and how much service we render to the people and this was the flexibility which was adopted and by this method we thought we could cover more people.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Yes, Mr. Ram Chandra Vikal.

श्री रामचन्द्र विकल : मैं वित्त मंत्री जी से जानना चाहता हूं कि उन्हीं के बैंकों में यह भेद है तन्खाहों में, फिर उन के विभागों में भेद है, केन्द्र और राज्य सरकार के कर्मचारियों की तन्खाहों में भेद है। तो क्या वित्त मंत्री जी जो सर्वोपरि हैं वेतनमानों में समानता लाने के लिए और समान काम के लिये समान वेतन देने की नीति पर विचार कर रहे हैं? केन्द्र के और राज्य सरकारों के विभागों में समान काम करने के लिए समान वेतन हो इस बारे में क्या वे विचार कर रहे हैं?

SHRI JANARDHAN POOJARI: As you know, Sir, these Regional Rural Banks have been set up for the implementation of the programmes for the weaker sections. They have also to help the weaker sections in the rural areas. They have to serve the people whose income does not exceed Rs. 6500. Sir, here even the people who are recruited in rural banks are from the district itself; they are not from any other place. Sir, here also it is a statutory provision. And when the rural banks have been set up it has been made very clear that it is a low-cost structure in order to help the weaker sections in the rural areas and also the people below the poverty line. And they have to be served. For this purpose the arrangement has been made. Hence they have to serve. So this is the arrangement that has been made.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Next question. Shrimati Asima Chatterjee.

Exports by small and large scale sectors

*388. PROF. (MRS.) ASIMA CHATTERJEE:†

PROF. B. RAMACHANDRA RAO:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state.

(a) what was the percetnage of exports during the last three years by the small scale and large scale sectors of industries, yearwise;

(b) whether it is a fact that there is a rapid decline in exports, particularly by the small scale sector;

(c) if so, whether Government propose to encourage exports by the above sector by giving incentives or liberalising the export restrictions; and

(d) if so, what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. A. SANGMA): (a) to (d) A statement is laid on the Table of House.

Statement

(a) According to foreign trade statistics compiled by the DGCI&S, India's total exports were Rs. 7805.9 crores in 1981-82, Rs. 8907.8 crores in 1982-83 and Rs. 9872.1 crores in 1983-84. The latest available provisional figure for India's total export during 1984-85 is Rs. 11396.0 crores. Export statistics are not com-

†The question was actually asked on the floor of the House by Prof. (Mrs.) Asima Chatterjee.